

1 Amendments to the Claims:

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3 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
4 and listings, of claims in the application:

5 Listing of Claims:

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7 Claim 1 (currently amended) A sewable snap fastener
8 constructed of resilient material for receiving stitches
9 from a sewing process where a needle in the sewing process
10 penetrates portions the sewable snap fastener, the sewable
11 snap fastener provided for detachably fastening together two
12 opposing pieces of material, the sewable snap fastener
13 comprising:

14 a socket member adapted for sewed attachment to a first
15 piece of material, said socket member comprising a socket
16 portion defining a receiving cavity and a cavity lip leading
17 into the receiving cavity, said socket member further
18 comprising an integrally formed socket flange that extends
19 outward from the socket portion to define a sewing region
20 having a surface provided to receive stitches for stitching
21 the socket member to the first piece of material, and a back
22 surface disposed adjacent the first piece of material,
23 wherein the stitch penetrations through the sewing region of
24 the socket flange are produced from the sewing process;

1 an opposing stud member adapted for sewed attachment to
2 a second piece of material, said stud member comprising a
3 stud portion defining a projecting outer lip configured for
4 engagement with the socket portion of the socket member so
5 that the first and second pieces of material can be
6 detachably joined, said stud member further comprising an
7 integrally formed stud flange that extends outward from the
8 stud portion to define a sewing region having a surface
9 provided to receive stitches for stitching the stud member
10 to the second piece of material, and a back surface disposed
11 adjacent the second piece of material, wherein the stitch
12 penetrations through the sewing region of the stud flange
13 are produced from the sewing process; and

14 channeling means for reducing the build up of unwanted
15 debris within the sewable snap fastener, wherein the
16 channeling means comprises:

17 a passage that extends from the projecting outer lip,
18 through the stud portion of the stud member, to the back
19 surface of the stud member to allow debris to be channeled
20 between the back surface of the stud member and the second
21 piece of material; and

22 a receiving cavity that extends from the cavity lip,
23 through the socket portion of the socket member to the back
24 surface of the socket member to allow debris to be channeled
25 between the back surface of the socket member and the first
26 piece of material.

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2 Claim 2 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
3 in claim 1 wherein the channeling means is defined in part
4 by a passage that extends from the projecting outer lip,
5 through the stud portion of the stud member, to the back
6 surface of the stud member to allow debris to be channeled
7 between the back surface of the stud member and the second
8 piece of material.

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10 Claim 3 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
11 in claim 1 wherein the channeling means comprises a
12 receiving cavity that extends from the cavity lip, through
13 the socket portion of the socket member to the back surface
14 of the socket member to allow debris to be channeled between
15 the back surface of the socket member and the first piece of
16 material.

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18 Claim 4 (original) A sewable snap fastener as recited
19 in claim 1 wherein the stud portion of the stud member
20 further comprises a compression slot transversely formed
21 through a portion of the outer lip.

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23 Claim 5 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
24 in claim 4 wherein the channeling means comprises a passage
25 that extends from the compression slot, through the stud
portion of the stud member, to the back surface of the stud

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1 member to allow debris to be channeled between the back
2 surface of the stud member and the second piece of material.
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4 Claim 6 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
5 in claim 5 wherein the channeling means comprises a
6 receiving cavity that extends from the cavity lip, through
7 the socket portion of the socket member to the back surface
8 of the socket member to allow debris to be channeled between
9 the back surface of the socket member and the first piece of
10 material.

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12 Claim 7 (original) A sewable snap fastener as recited
13 in claim 1 wherein the cavity lip is formed by a counter
14 bore that extends through the socket portion from the back
15 surface of the socket flange.

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17 Claim 8 (original) A sewable snap fastener as recited
18 in claim 1 wherein the socket flange extends outward from
19 the socket portion to define a sewing region having a
20 surface provided to receive stitches arranged in a vertical
21 pattern so that the stitches will not obstruct debris from
22 dropping away from the snap fastener between the back
23 surface thereof and the material.

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25 Claim 9 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable snap
26 fastener constructed of resilient material for receiving
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1 stitches from a sewing process where a needle in the sewing
2 process penetrates portions the sewable snap fastener, the
3 sewable snap fastener provided for detachably fastening
4 together two opposing pieces of material, the method
5 comprising the steps:

6 forming a socket member adapted for sewed attachment to
7 a first piece of material, said socket member comprising a
8 socket portion defining a receiving cavity and a cavity lip
9 leading into the receiving cavity, said socket member
10 further comprising an integrally formed socket flange that
11 extends outward from the socket portion to define a sewing
12 region having a surface provided to receive stitches for
13 stitching the socket member to the first piece of material,
14 and a back surface disposed adjacent the first piece of
15 material, wherein the stitch penetrations through the sewing
16 region of the socket flange are produced from the sewing
17 process;

18 forming an opposing stud member adapted for sewed
19 attachment to a second piece of material, said stud member
20 comprising a stud portion defining a projecting outer lip
21 configured for engagement with the socket portion of the
22 socket member so that the first and second pieces of
23 material can be detachably joined, said stud member further
24 comprising an integrally formed stud flange that extends
25 outward from the stud portion to define a sewing region
26 having a surface provided to receive stitches for stitching

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1 the stud member to the second piece of material, and a back
2 surface disposed adjacent the second piece of material,
3 wherein the stitch penetrations through the sewing region of
4 the stud flange are produced from the sewing process; and
5 providing channeling means for reducing the build up of
6 unwanted debris within the sewable snap fastener.

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8 Claim 10 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
9 snap fastener as recited in claim 9 wherein the channeling
10 means comprises a passage formed to extend from the
11 projecting outer lip, through the stud portion of the stud
12 member, to the back surface of the stud member to allow
13 debris to be channeled between the back surface of the stud
14 member and the second piece of material.

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16 Claim 11 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
17 snap fastener as recited in claim 9 wherein the channeling
18 means comprises a receiving cavity formed to extend from the
19 cavity lip, through the socket portion of the socket member
20 to the back surface of the socket member to allow debris to
21 be channeled between the back surface of the socket member
22 and the first piece of material.

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24 Claim 12 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
25 snap fastener as recited in claim 9 further comprising the

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1 step of forming a compression slot transversely through a
2 portion of the outer lip.

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4 Claim 13 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
5 snap fastener as recited in claim 12 wherein the channeling
6 means comprises a passage that extends from the compression
7 slot, through the stud portion of the stud member, to the
8 back surface of the stud member to allow debris to be
9 channeled between the back surface of the stud member and
10 the second piece of material.

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12 Claim 14 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
13 snap fastener as recited in claim 13 wherein the channeling
14 means comprises a receiving cavity that extends from the
15 cavity lip, through the socket portion of the socket member
16 to the back surface of the socket member to allow debris to
17 be channeled between the back surface of the socket member
18 and the first piece of material.

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20 Claim 15 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
21 snap fastener as recited in claim 9 further comprising the
22 step of forming a counter bore that extends partially
23 through the socket portion from the back surface of the
24 socket flange.

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1 Claim 16 (withdrawn) A method of making a sewable
2 snap fastener as recited in claim 9 further comprising the
3 step of extending the socket flange outward from the socket
4 portion to define a sewing region having a surface provided
5 to receive stitches arranged in a vertical pattern so that
6 the stitches will not obstruct debris from dropping away
7 from the snap fastener between the back surface thereof and
8 the material.

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10 Claim 17 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener constructed
11 of resilient material for receiving stitches from a sewing
12 process where a needle in the sewing process penetrates
13 portions the sewable snap fastener, the sewable snap
14 fastener provided for detachably fastening together two
15 opposing pieces of material, the sewable snap fastener
16 comprising:
17 a socket member adapted for sewed attachment to a first
18 piece of material, said socket member comprising a socket
19 portion defining a receiving cavity and a cavity lip leading
20 into the receiving cavity;

21 an opposing stud member adapted for sewed attachment to
22 a second piece of material, said stud member comprising a
23 stud portion defining a projecting outer lip configured for
24 engagement with the socket portion of the socket member so
25 that the first and second pieces of material can be
26 detachably joined;

1 wherein the socket member further comprises an
2 integrally formed socket flange that extends outward from
3 the socket portion to define a sewing region provided to
4 receive stitches for stitching the socket member to the
5 first piece of material, wherein the stitch penetrations
6 through the sewing region of the socket flange are produced
7 from the sewing process; and

8 wherein the stud member further comprises an integrally
9 formed stud flange that extends outward from the stud
10 portion to define a sewing region having a provided to
11 receive stitches for stitching the stud member to the second
12 piece of material wherein the stitch penetrations through
13 the sewing region of the stud flange are produced from the
14 sewing process.

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16 Claim 18 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
17 in claim 17 wherein the stud member and the socket member
18 are each monolithically formed integrally of resilient
19 material.

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21 Claim 19 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
22 in claim 17 wherein the stud member further comprises a
23 passage through the stud portion so that the material
24 stitched to the stud member is in communication with the
25 receiving cavity of the socket member.

1 Claim 20 (canceled) A sewable snap fastener as recited
2 in claim 17 wherein the stud portion further comprises a
3 compression slot disposed transversely to the plane defined
4 by the outer lip.

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